TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office

April 19, 1999 LB 637, 835

push me any further. A stand must be taken. Well, at this point, where we're talking about the likelihood, not just an outside possibility, the likelihood of harming women children who are not being harmed now, this is the place for us to say to the federal government, we believe that what the state is doing is correct; we don't believe that what the federal government is mandating is going to be an improvement. Since it is not an improvement, it can only do harm and it will harm the most vulnerable members of our society and we are not, state, going to knuckle under and do that. So here is where the stand will be taken and I believe we ought to take it. We can justify that. But you will not be able to justify rolling over and putting a system in place that will cause the harm. There are people pushing this bill who cannot even answer questions that have been asked because they don't know the answers or...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...they don't want to give them. But the rest of us, we're not locked into this bill. We are locked into, or we should be, trying to help our constituents. I tried to help Senator Dierks' constituents on (LB) 835. When the "Silver Fox" brings up those technical constitutional and legal arguments, I will argue and point out as clearly as I can why those amendments ought not be adopted. But then what help can I get with a constituency which means so much to me--the women and the children? It's not there. And you all hear me threaten a of times not to help you with your bills, but a point is going to be reached when I'm going to be able to deliver on that and you are going to expect me to be there and I'm not going to It cannot go on forever being a one-way street. Help the be. Even though I'm advocating for them, you're women and children. not helping me directly.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Time.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: You can still have whatever attitude toward me you choose, but help the women and children.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: You just got your four seconds back. You're welcome. Senator Price.